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STATE MAY ORDER CLEAN-UP FOR MUNCIE

More Parking Meters Among Last Minute Deals

Council Authorizes Purchase of Additional 100 Devices At Same Price and From Same Firm; Plan Would Extend Restricted Area for Meters.

Last Monday night, the common council of the city of Muncie authorized the purchase of one hundred additional parking meters to be installed and it is announced that such meters will be purchased from the Duncan Co., of Chicago at the price of \$65 each which was the same price paid for the present 350 devices now installed and operating. Such action may be defined as last minute deals. It may be remembered that the Hampton city council attempted to authorize a resolution to build an intercepting sewer and disposal plant a few weeks before their retirement in 1929. Also, it can be remembered that numerous contracts for public improvements were let in advance by the board of works at that time in order to stuff through every thing possible before giving up their control of city affairs.

The parking meters in Muncie have been in operation nearly one year. Considerable public sentiment was evident for and against the meters a year ago but since then there has been little comment about them. It has always been considered by many citizens that the cost of the original order of meters was too high since it is known that they can be purchased for much less money. There is not any urgent necessity to extend the restricted zones for parking meters but nevertheless the city administration quickly decides to buy another 100 of the devices at the same price and the council backs up such action.

Any emergency action taken by the outgoing administration could be accepted without question by the public but the purchase of a few more meters do not warrant any such emergency. The taxpayers dollars are too often wasted by hurry-up deals especially when they are being spent during the closing days of an expiring administration. Sixty-five dollars for what appears to be a Big Ben alarm clock works in a cheap metal casing and stuck on the end of an iron pipe seems an extravagant expenditure of public money. It is doubtful whether or not any additional parking meters are needed at this time and it would seem better business if those that have already been installed should be fully paid for before others were purchased. The total receipts from the parking meters since they were installed last December has been \$21,613.39 up to November 1st. This amount of money would nearly have fully paid for the meters

if all receipts were used to pay for them but instead a large part of the meter receipts have been used to employ additional police officers and helpers. It may be estimated that approximately one-half the purchase price for the 350 meters originally bought has been paid. There still are objections to the use of parking meters but despite these objections they have been of some convenience to the shoppers in downtown Muncie. The purchase price has never been justified and the buying of an additional 100 meters just a few weeks before the retirement of the present city administration fails to gain any applause from the public.

STATE INDUSTRY LITTLE AFFECTED BY NEW LAW

Indianapolis, Nov. 25.—Indiana industry will be little affected by the new wage-hour law for several years, according to a survey completed today. Twenty-five industries of the state were studied by the Indiana state employment service and the U. S. bureau of labor statistics, primarily to obtain information on women in industry. In only three industries were cases found of wages being below and hours above the standards set in the new act. In all other cases, "there is a margin that is comfortably above the 25-cent minimum," the survey disclosed.

Radio-telephone service between Shanghai and Japanese cities—suspended for more than a year—is now being resumed.

CITY FINANCIAL REPORT

The total balance in all funds of the civil city of Muncie at the beginning of November amounted to \$681,146.25. Receipts for the month of October amounted to \$81,285.33 and the disbursements for last month were a total of \$70,812.89. The total balance in the city treasury amounts to the combined balances in seven separate funds including the general fund with a surplus of \$45,039.86, the park fund, \$3,242.47, the traffic regulation fund, \$3,749.07, the gasoline fund, \$6,607.72, the sewage disposal construction fund, \$622,158.64, the city planning fund, \$163.48, and the improvement district bond fund, \$185.01.

The total receipts for the civil city since the first of this year amounts to \$1,425,431.43 while the total disbursements for the past ten months have amounted to \$825,570.51. The total receipts for the first ten months of 1937 amounted to \$751,134.03 and the disbursements were \$797,648.13. The large increase in receipts for 1938 as compared with last year is due to the sale of revenue bonds amounting to \$703,294.72 with which to finance the city share of costs for building the sewage disposal plant. The increase in disbursements may be attributed to the same cause since there has been a total of \$81,136.08 expended from the sewage disposal fund this year when last year such a fund did not exist.

The total balance in all funds was greater on November first than on October 1st due to receipts from the gasoline tax distribution from the state and from advances drawn on the December tax settlement. It has been stated by the city controller that intentions are to clean up all current indebtedness by the close of this year when the Wilson administration will assume their duties on January first. If such is done it is certain that small balances will be left in the city treasury except for the sewage disposal construction fund which is held separate to meet costs for this purpose alone. Receipts from the December tax settlement will be used to clean up temporary loans and unpaid current bills of the present administration which will necessitate the borrowing of funds at the beginning of the new year.

CHINA'S SUTTON BACK TO WARS TO AID CHIANG

Famous Adventurer Iried Over Treatment By Japanese

Hong Kong, Nov. 25.—Capt. Arthur Francis Sutton, M. C. Gallipoli hero, inventor of the Sutton fuse; Gen. Frank Sutton, chief military adviser of old tiger, Chang Tso-lin; "One-Arm" Sutton, explorer, big game hunter, prospector, pioneer, politician and financier Sutton, who has made the headlines often in the last 25 years, is in Hong Kong waiting "to do something for China."

Now at 54, Sutton, 6 feet 3 inches in height, with shoulders like a wrestler and the head of a Greek god, who has played a big part in the making and unmaking of China's rulers in the past, is still a man and a half.

Five weeks after being placed in a Seoul, Korea, prison, Sutton came to Hong Kong with one burning ambition.

To use his own words, "Anything physically or otherwise that I can do for the Chinese against the Japanese I am ready to do."

Grants an interview

After deftly manipulating a box of matches with the stump of his right arm he told the United Press his story, punctuated by puffs at a long Havana.

For the past five years he has been quietly prospecting in Korea and has taken no part in political or military activities.

"I got into trouble with the Japanese about five weeks ago when I was asked to go on a lecture tour in America as a sort of 'reformed character' who would testify that Korea was a decaying country under the old Chinese regime, but is now a beautifully-run affair under the Japanese."

"Actually they offered me quite a sum for this, but I said that I had spent 13 years in China and had been well treated by the Chinese."

"Shortly afterward while in a train, I related the various things the Japanese could do with their money. There must have been a Japanese detective on the train because the next morning I was arrested, taken to a police station and badgered with questions for 14 hours."

"Finally I got a little irritated and told them a few things . . . then they got mad, tore off all my clothes except my shirt and, after a bit of a struggle, put me in a cell with 18 Koreans."

"Since there was no windows we could hardly tell when it was night or day, but the bed bugs used to creep away through the boards at intervals which, we guessed, meant it was daylight. They let me out after three days and I discovered they had searched my house pretty thoroughly trying to prove I was a spy."

"The British consul at Seoul was ill at the time and although the vice-consul did his best for me he was not allowed to see me in a prison. I didn't make much of a song about it all because such procedure would only have brought repercussions on the other foreigners in Seoul and the Japanese might have had an excuse for closing the foreigners' club."

"So I left for Shanghai a few days later, with two Japanese detectives to share my cabin. I managed to lose them at Tsingtau, arrived in Shanghai alone and came on to Hong Kong."

"Kill 'em cheap" is a good motto, and the trench mortar is the best bet.

"China is spending too much on high class munitions which they cannot use to the best advantage."

BIBLE OF 1600 STOLEN

Covington, Ky. — Mrs. George Kyrland, returning from a four-month vacation, reported to police that \$1,000 worth of valuables had been stolen, including a 300-year-old German hymnal and Bible.

POOR EYESIGHT? 'NOTHER HIT

Kenton, O.—People have warned James Hastings, 33, to give up hunting because of failing eyesight, but he went hunting anyway. He fired 25 shotgun shells and returned with 17 mudhens.

PARTY REPEATED 25 YEARS

Mansfield, O.—For 25 years Mr. and Mrs. Reid Painter and Mr. and Mrs. Oliver F. Shiveley have held a joint birthday party for Mrs. Shiveley and Mrs. Painter, whose birthdays are on consecutive days. This year, they celebrated the "silver anniversary" of the inauguration of the series of parties.

Wants Royalties Visit Kept Free From Propaganda

Washington, Nov. 25.—In a telegram to the United Press Monday Rep. Hamilton Fish, R., N. Y., urged that the visit to the United States next year of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth be kept free of war propaganda, war commitments or secret treaties.

"The visit had better be cancelled," his telegram said, "if it is to be used as a smoke screen for establishing a military understanding or naval alliance, or for the purpose of entering into agreements for concerted or parallel action to police and quarantine the world."

The ranking Republican member of the house foreign affairs committee declared that this country's policy "should be to mind our own business and not to twist the British lion's tail on one side or attempt to pull British chestnuts out of the fire on the other."

Fish's telegram said he saw no reason why the American people should not welcome the visit of King George as an act of friendship and good will.

Life Much Safer For Americans and Canadians

New York.—The populations of the United States and Canada not only are healthy, but they are growing even healthier, insurance statistics reveal.

A survey for the first nine months of 1938, as compared with 1937, showed the following decreases:

Influenza-pneumonia deaths, 34.5 per cent.

Automobile fatalities, 16.3 per cent.

Tuberculosis deaths, 10.2 per cent.

Childbirth and maternity mortality, 10.1 per cent.

Deaths from accidents other than automobiles, 7.4 per cent.

Heart attack rate, 5.8 per cent.

Cerebral hemorrhage death rate, 2.4 per cent.

Mortality from kidney ailments, 3.6 per cent.

The survey also disclosed several cases where mortality rates were higher. These included a 2.1 per cent increase in cancer deaths; a 1.5 per cent increase in deaths from diseases of the arteries, and a 4.5 per cent increase in the suicide rate.

ARTIST STYMIED FOR 22 YEARS

St. Louis.—In 1916 Miss Daisy Taake, a St. Louis sculptor, designed a fountain symbolizing William Wordsworth's "Ode on the Intimations of Immortality."

Miss Taake is still trying to sell the fountain, and to complete the only definite purchase offer she has received she must raise \$7,750 herself.

The city of St. Louis has agreed to allot \$6,000 toward the fountain, which will cost \$25,000, if Miss Taake furnishes the rest. Recently the city applied for a \$11,250 WPA grant to assist her. That leaves \$7,750, which Miss Taake is seeking to obtain from civic organizations.

"And," as Miss Taake, who teaches a high school evening class in art, explained, "an artist does not know how to raise money."

The fountain, if purchased by the city, would be placed at one of the entrances to Forest Park. The design, of bronze and granite, has four figures, a boy and three girls, who represent earth, meadow, grove and stream. The figures are 7 feet tall.

The \$25,000 would be spent largely for labor, Miss Taake explained. She has a model one-third the size of the proposed fountain, which would have to be enlarged to full-size in clay. Then a mold would be made, to be cast in plaster. Finally a mold would be made to be cast in bronze and granite.

TINY BABY FOOT-PRINTED

Eureka, Cal.—Humboldt county authorities figure they have the record for the youngest finger-printed and foot-printed person in northern California. It is a baby, just 33 days old. The mother had just been fingerprinted for a driver's license when she decided that it was never too soon to get her baby started on the fingerprinted way.

The Second Installment of an Outstanding Fiction Serial—"FOR RICHER—OR FOR POORER?" by Thelma Strabel. Read this Thrilling, Romantic New Novel in The American Weekly, the Magazine Distributed with the SUNDAY CHICAGO HERALD AND EXAMINER.

Action Prompted By Lack Of Local Enforcement

CO-OPS URGED IN COTTONSEED PRICE DISPUTE

Rep. Rankin And Gov. Bailey Want U. S. To Step In

Memphis Tenn., Nov. 25.—Charges by Rep. John E. Rankin, D., Miss., and Gov. Carl E. Bailey of Arkansas that the cottonseed industry is controlled by a trust and their ensuing word battles with T. H. Gregory, executive vice president of the National Cottonseed Products Association, are confusing farmers.

While agreeing that the price of cottonseed—often the farmer's only clear profit on a season's crop—is low, many planters points out that the prices of cottonseed products also are comparatively low and that before the oil is extracted from the seed it must go through an expensive crushing process.

Yet, this year, the grade of cottonseed is described as the best in a decade by buyers, and mill operators say they could crush three times the amount of seed available to them. Buyers are fighting for it. Still, the price has not risen to the height that Rankin believes it would if cottonseed co-operatives were formed and operated under supervision of the Federal government.

Campaign Raised Prices

Since Rankin opened his campaign shortly before his renomination in the Mississippi Democratic primary, the price of cottonseed has risen in some communities.

Gregory said the rise was the result of Rankin's charges but that, while the rise resulted in an increase in the farmers' profit, he declared that farmers were paying more for cottonseed than the price for which they can dispose of it to mills.

At Greenwood, Miss., the price for cottonseed rose from \$23 to \$30. Gin officials said the price went up because of the exceptionally high quality of the seed and that Rankin's campaign had nothing to do with it.

Shortly after Rankin had declared that farmers were being deprived of their main source of profit and had sent President Roosevelt and Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace telegrams urging "rescue" of cotton growers from the "ravages of the cottonseed oil trust," Bailey promised support in seeking a federal investigation and establishment of co-operatives.

Rankin charged that cottonseed was being dumped on the market at low prices and declared that the "trust" was holding the price of cottonseed and by doing so was "ragging down prices" of wheat, corn, livestock, dairy products and all other farm commodities that compete with cottonseed products.

Rankin and Bailey announced plans to seek federal aid to bolster cottonseed prices, asserting that unorganized efforts by individual growers or state agencies would not raise prices.

Bailey Seeks Action

Bailey said that in his opinion the condition could not be remedied by anything short of action by established agencies or by the Federal government, and Rankin declared that "the fact that cottonseed is now selling at one-third its normal value is shameful."

Gregory, although not a direct target of the attacks, is an official of an association of buyers. He was indignant.

"The Mississippi representative's charges are so thoroughly ridiculous that they do not deserve consideration," Gregory said.

"Despite his charges of low prices, farmers are now receiving a relatively higher price for their cottonseed than any other major crop except tobacco."

CALIFORNIA BANANAS

Tulare, Cal.—Possibilities of a new California fruit growing industry is that of bananas. John Rose has successfully experimented here with a tree that was 14 inches tall when he planted it 18 months ago, and is now 18 feet high, with a diameter of 13 inches and has already borne two ripened bunches of bananas.

Wooster, O.—A pension plan including all Wooster college employees working on the campus has been announced by the college. The plan goes into effect next year.

City Infested With Bootlegging, Gambling, and Other Vice Conditions Which Must Be Discouraged; Statehouse May Take Hand In Such Conditions to Satisfy Citizens.

It is reported to the Post Democrat that Indiana state police may assume responsibility for cleaning up unlawful operations in Muncie soon if local authorities continue to allow such practices to remain wide open. It was noted a few days ago that Governor Townsend ordered the state police to confiscate all slot machines wherever they found such to be in operation throughout the state and insisted that such an order be made permanent. It had been the policy of the state-administration to expect local enforcement agencies to correct illegal operations in their respective communities but it is concluded now that the state police must interfere if vice conditions are to be eliminated in numerous parts of the state.

Investigations have revealed that a large amount of illegal liquor traffic has been permitted in Muncie during the past several years under the present city administration and has reached the point where state officers must enforce the laws of the state. In addition to the volume of bootlegging, the city has been infested with nearly all forms of gambling and houses of ill fame. Such conditions could be attributed as the causes for the revolt of voters in Muncie on last election day because very little effort has been made to regulate such conditions at any time.

Bootlegging has been encouraged through the lack of respect for law enforcement by local wholesale liquor dealers. One beer distributor was engaged in the wholesale business as a bootlegger for several years and invited sales to those who would retail beer without a state license. The selfishness of this group of wholesalers aided by local city administration support developed a widespread liberal movement which resulted into numerous violations of the law and little respect for anyone except those who were members of the gang. Local tavern owners who would spend money for state permits were wasting their funds since they would be surrounded by many bootleggers who would do more business without a permit.

It is evident that the present administration seems little interested in law enforcement since they have but one more month to serve. It is considered that a last drive will be authorized for all gamblers and violators to do their best job of fleecing the public before the change takes place in the city hall. It is not assured that even then conditions will be greatly altered. The state government could do this

community a great service by taking charge of such conditions and clean-up the city. It is generally agreed that unless efforts are made to keep the liquor traffic within legal control and handled by those who would respect the laws of our state that prohibition is on its way back in Indiana.

Results of the recent election should clearly point to a demand from the public that racketeering be discouraged and wherever local authorities fail to do their duties then it becomes necessary for state officers to rectify conditions. It is evident that such a condition has been reached in Muncie and it may be accepted as commendable that the state administration to enter the field where lawlessness is unrestricted and clear up such conditions. There is plenty of work for a squad of state police to perform in Muncie and the sooner they arrive on the job the sooner the wishes of a majority of people will be satisfied.

The Democratic party has suffered in some parts of the state principally due to the selfishness of a few leaders of county organizations who have lost the respect of the voters. The cause of the party can never be lifted until such would-be leaders are short of state prestige and removed from control of local political affairs. The state administration can safely unshackle these parasites and build toward a greater Democracy for the next election in 1940.

Wayland, N. Y.—Gerald Seeley in cleaning his furnace, tossed a brick outside into some tall grass fearing the startled entry of a fluttering bird, he investigated and found the brick had downed a full grown cock pheasant.

TAX COLLECTIONS GOOD

Final receipts from the fall tax payments have been cleared through the county treasurer's office and the total collections from taxpayers within the city of Muncie amounted to \$821,982.49. This amount will be distributed among the various taxing units to which city taxpayers contribute at the close of December when final settlement is scheduled to be made. Receipts from taxes paid in all of the eighteen divisions of government in Delaware county have not been recorded but a grand total of the amount has not yet been compiled. The total of all property taxes collected in the county includes each of the twelve townships, the five towns, and the city of Muncie.

The total collection of taxes in the city of Muncie during last spring payments amounted to \$912,406 which was approximately ten percent more than the fall collections which is normally expected each year. Numerous taxpayers remit their full year of taxes in the spring which would increase the amount of revenue received during the first part of each year over the last installment payments. It may be concluded that tax receipts during the year have been good despite the decrease in economic conditions during 1938 as compared with last year. The payments on real estate taxes have been kept up with former years but as usual personal property taxpayers make up the greatest part of all delinquents.

It is estimated that the total tax collections from all taxing units in Delaware county will amount to approximately one million dollars during this last half of this year. This amount would be nearly \$100,000 more than a year ago due to the increased tax rate in the city of Muncie which is the largest taxing unit in the entire county. The increase in taxes collected from Muncie taxpayers would amount to approximately 25% during 1938 as compared to 1937 due to the increased tax rate from \$3.10 on each \$100 of assessed valuation to \$3.80 on the same valuation and also due to a total increased valuation of taxable property in the city.